

From: Phoebe Trepp <director@willisdady.org>

Date: Thursday, December 21, 2017

Subject: For ICH Review

To: "Lewis, Amber" <amber.lewis@iowa.gov>

Cc: Ben <ben@fofia.org>

Hi Amber and Ben,

Thank you for your consideration of the following proposal. I would love any feedback or questions if any arise.

Willis Dady is requesting a letter of support from our CoC (IA BOS) regarding an application for grant-per-diem bridge housing and service intensive transitional housing. We plan to apply for 6-8 beds of bridge housing, and 6-8 beds of service intensive transitional housing. There are currently no GPD beds in Linn County, despite the fact that we are the second largest city in Iowa and have hundreds of veterans experiencing homelessness within our region each year. Willis Dady has long worked hand-in-hand with veteran service providers, particularly the VA homeless outreach team and the VA Recovery In Action committee to better serve veterans experiencing homelessness. We provided SSVF services for the past 4 years, ending Oct. 1st of this year, as a sub-grantee of HACAPs (we are no longer providing SSVF due to funding changes at HACAP, though we continue to serve as an outreach location for SSVF). Our local VA homeless outreach team feels these GPD services are very needed in the Cedar Rapids area. With our capital campaign complete we will be renovating our facility and adding accessible space, which will provide an excellent environment for these services (our facility's new wing is due to open Nov 2018, in-line with funding cycles for this NOFA). The addition of these GPD programs would serve a large population of veterans, and would greatly improve our ability to quickly house a wide range of veterans experiencing homelessness.

I'm attaching a draft letter of support, but please feel free to edit or adapt as needed, if you are able to support this application.

Thank you for your consideration,

Phoebe